United States Patent [19]

Tabb et al.

[54] **METHODS FOR HYPERTEXT REPORTING IN A RELATIONAL DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

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[58] Field of Search 395/600, 602

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A system of the present invention includes a relational database management system (RDBMS) having a hypertext report writing module. Methods are described for automatically recognizing relations between reports which are generated from the same or related database tables. The system automatically embeds (or assists the user in embedding) appropriate hypertext links so that information from one report may be cross-referenced immediately with information in another, related report. Drill-down hypertext reports of increasing level of detail are illustrated. In addition to drill-down reports, the system may create comprehensive hypertext reports for automatically tying together information which is related through underlying table relations but which ordinarily appears in different reports. By automatically placing hypertext links or cross-indexes between reports, the system ties together relatable information into a single, cross-indexed hypertext report.

40 Claims, 33 Drawing Sheets